



February 2, 2015

To Whom It May Concern and Partners:

This is special invitation for you to attend our FIREWISE How To Have A Firewise Home event to be held at the **Ronald E. Whitehead Advanced Technology Center, 72 Technology Boulevard, Ellisville, MS on Saturday, April 11, 2015**. This program is part of a new initiative led in our state by the Mississippi Forestry Commission to achieve fire safe planning and development in the wildland/urban interface ... that fringe area of our communities where homes are frequently damaged or destroyed by wildland fire. Evaluations for similar field days in other states indicated that the participants found the information and exercises very beneficial.

As our Mississippi public continues to build homes in areas that have traditionally been forests or wildlands, disastrous wildfires occur more and more frequently. We will likely continue to experience damaging wildfires in the wildland/urban interface until people begin to work together to solve basic community planning issues at the local level.

The How To Have A Firewise Home program is a one-half day event, bringing together citizens, business and community leaders involved in planning, financing, building, sustaining and protecting communities in the wildland/urban interface. Participants will learn about why homes burn, various wildland fuel reduction techniques and how to assess the fire danger of their own home.

I have enclosed directions and a map to the program site at the Ronald E. Whitehead Advanced Technology Center and a pre-registration form. **Please complete the pre-registration form and return by mail or fax to 601-268-2778 by March 27, 2015.** We believe that this program may have a significant impact on wildland protection in your area. If you cannot personally attend, please designate someone to represent you. There is no charge for your participation and lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is a must for the noon meal head count.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. The program will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and end at approximately 1:00 p.m.

We value your participation in the program and look forward to seeing you on **April 11, 2015**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dan McKenna at 601-428-3187 or Lenora Haynes at 601-307-6728.

The following CFE/CEU/CLE are given for this event: Registered Forester, 2 hours of Category II; Certified Loggers, 2 hours of Category II; Realtors, 3 hours Elective Real Estate Course, Approval Code 10181; Structural Firefighter, Certificate of Attendance, 2 hours. Credits are not available for teachers and professional disciplines.

Sincerely,

Dan F. McKenna  
Fire Coordinator  
Jones County Volunteer Department Council

*The Mississippi Forestry Commission provides equal employment opportunity and services to all individuals regardless of disability, race, age, religion, color, gender, creed, nation origin or political affiliation. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*



## **How to Have A Firewise Home Agenda**

**Ronald E. Whitehead Advanced Technology Center  
72 Technology Boulevard  
Ellisville, MS 39437**

**April 11, 2015**

9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:30 a.m.	Welcome and Introduction
9:45 a.m.	Firewise in Mississippi
10:00 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	Wildfire! Preventing Home Ignitions
10:35 a.m.	How to Have A Firewise Home
Noon	Lunch
12:45 p.m.	Evaluations
1:00 p.m.	Adjourn



**FAX or Mail PRE-REGISTRATION FORM TO:**

**Southeast Mississippi Resource Conservation and Development Council**

**Fax Number: 601-268-2778**

**6081 Hwy 49 South, Hattiesburg, MS 39401**

**Contact Number: 601-307-6728**

**Due Date: March 27, 2015**

Lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is a **must** for the meal head count.

**PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

Jones County Volunteer Department Council

Attn: Dan McKenna

Fax: 601-428-3635 Office: 601-428-3187

22 Mason Street, Laurel, MS 39440

**April 11, 2015**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please select the category that most closely fits your occupation:**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture      | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Management  | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Banking/Finance   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Marshall         | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Builder/Developer | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeowner Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Department        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Code Enforcement  | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeowner             | <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Fire Department |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elected Official  | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry Business     | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildland Fire              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____       |  |   |

## News Release

### **How To Have A FIREWISE Home**

The Jones County Volunteer Department Council in partnership with the Southeast MS Resource Conservation and Development Council is sponsoring the ***How To Have a FIREWISE Home*** program. The event will be held at the Ronald E. Whitehead Advanced Technology Center, 72 Technology Boulevard, Ellisville, MS on Saturday, April 11, 2015. The program is part of a new initiative led in our state by the Mississippi Forestry Commission to achieve fire safe planning and development in the wildland/urban interface...areas in communities where homes are frequently damaged or destroyed by wildland fire.

As the public continues to build homes in areas that have traditionally been forest or wildlands, disastrous wildfires occur more frequently, endangering and destroying homes and property. Participants will learn about why homes burn, various wildland fuel reduction techniques and how to assess the fire danger of their own homes. The intent of the program is to bring together citizens, businesses and community leaders involved in planning, financing, building, sustaining and protecting communities in the wildland/urban interface

The How To Have a FIREWISE Home program is a one-half day event. Lunch will be provided. Participants are asked to pre-register no later than March 27, 2015. Pre-registration is a must for the meal head count. To pre-register by phone you may contact Dan McKenna at 601-428-3187 or Lenora Haynes at 601-307-6728.

The following CFE/CEU/CLE are given for this event: Registered Forester, 2 hours of Category II; Certified Loggers, 2 hours of Category II; Realtors, 3 hours Elective Real Estate Course, Approval Code 10181; Structural Firefighter, Certificate of Attendance, 2 hours. Credits are not available for teachers and professional disciplines.